

A SHOCKINGLY SMART COMIC. -- COMICS ALLIANCE

MEGA MAN™

FLYNN
JAMPOLE
MARTIN

Archie
ACTION!
ARCHIECOMICS.COM

CAPCOM

MEGA MAN™ | 53



IN THE YEAR 20XX, A SUPER ROBOT NAMED MEGA MAN HAS PLEDGED TO STOP THE EVIL DESIRES OF DR. WILY AND PROTECT THE WORLD. MEGA MAN NOW FIGHTS ALONGSIDE HIS FELLOW ROBOT MASTERS TO DEFEAT THE FORCES OF EVIL!



**CHARACTER
= SELECT =**



MEGA MAN
BLUE BOMBER



**DR. THOMAS
LIGHT**
MEGA MAN'S CREATOR



**DR. ALBERT
WILY**
"DECEASED" EVIL GENIUS



MR. X
MYSTERIOUS LEADER OF
THE X CORPORATION

MEGA MAN™

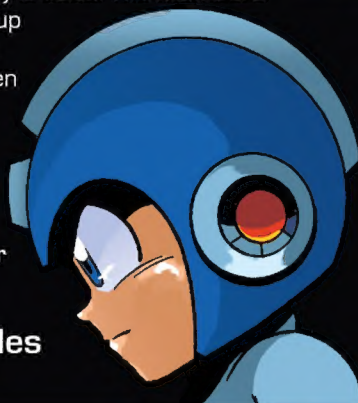
PREVIOUSLY...

BLUE HERO!

Mega Man was originally built as Rock, robotic son and lab assistant to **Dr. Light**! When **Dr. Wily** tried to conquer the world, Mega Man chose to be weaponized so that he could fight for peace and save everyone!

But now the battle is over. As far as Mega Man knows, Dr. Wily is **dead**. The members of the terrorist group called the **Emerald Spears** have all been arrested. Their leader, **Xander Payne**, has vanished...

What does a super fighting robot do when there are **no more battles to be won...?**



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MEGA CITY...

HURRY,
RUSH! GUTS
MAN IS IN
DANGER!

MEGA MAN
THE BLUE BOMBER

RUSH JET
TRANSFORMING
ROBO-DOG

BLUE SHIFT

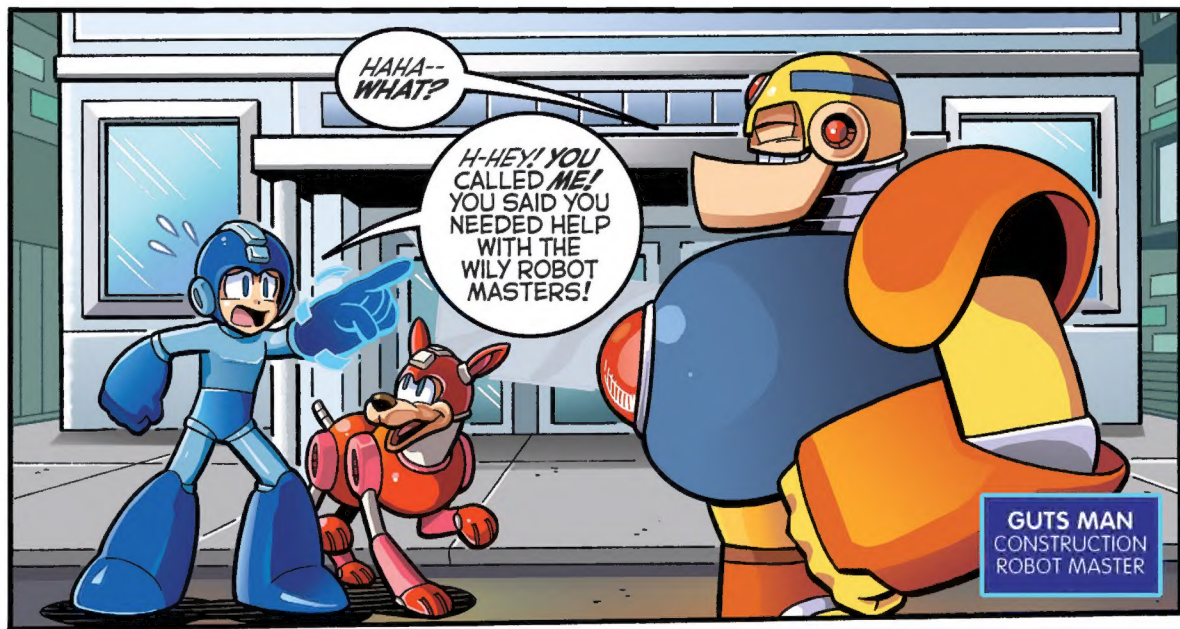


HOLD
IT! PUT
DOWN YOUR
WEAPONS
AND--!



BWAH
HA HA HA!
WHAT'RE YOU
DOIN'?!

...COMING
TO YOUR
RESCUE?





HEY! YOU WORKIN' HARD OR HARDLY WORKIN'?

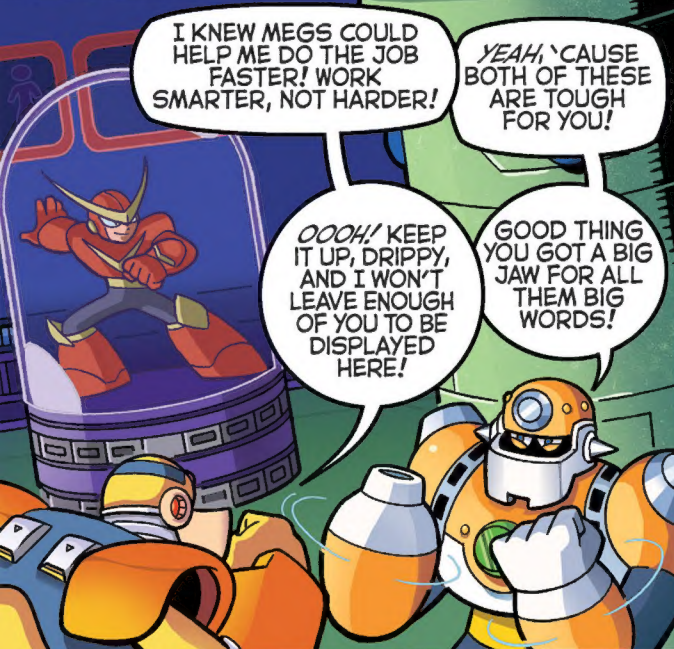
HAR! I'M BUSY FINISHING THE INTERIOR. YOU HAVIN' TROUBLE CARRYIN' A WHOLE *EIGHT* CONTAINERS?

HEYA, MEGA MAN.

I...WELL... *SHUDDUP!*

HAHA! HI, CONCRETE MAN!

CONCRETE MAN
CONSTRUCTION
ROBOT MASTER



I KNEW MEGS COULD HELP ME DO THE JOB FASTER! WORK SMARTER, NOT HARDER!

YEAH, 'CAUSE BOTH OF THESE ARE TOUGH FOR YOU!

OOOH! KEEP IT UP, DRIPPY, AND I WON'T LEAVE ENOUGH OF YOU TO BE DISPLAYED HERE!

GOOD THING YOU GOT A BIG JAW FOR ALL THEM BIG WORDS!

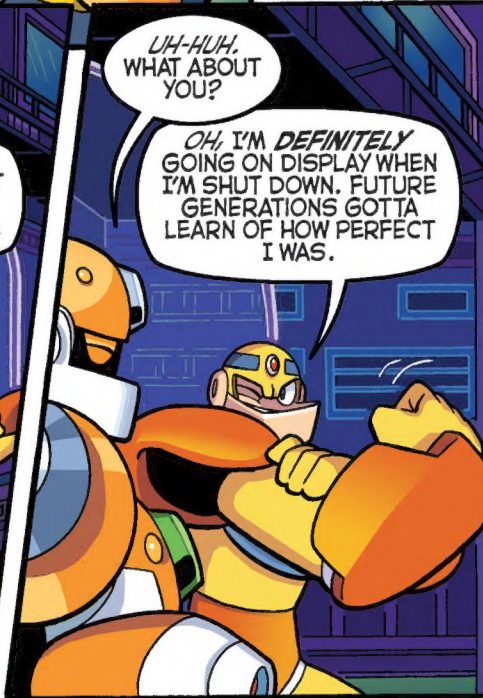


HA HA HA! HA



SERIOUSLY, THO'--I THINK I'D RATHER BE RECYCLED WHEN MY TIME'S UP. WASTE TAKES SPACE, AND I HATE WASTE.

YOU SAY THAT *NOW*. JUST WAIT 'TIL YOUR WARRANTY'S UP.



UH-HUH. WHAT ABOUT YOU?

OH, I'M *DEFINITELY* GOING ON DISPLAY WHEN I'M SHUT DOWN. FUTURE GENERATIONS GOTTA LEARN OF HOW PERFECT I WAS.



WHAT?!



"AND I WOULD'VE
SAVED DR. WILY IF
I COULD!"

THE X COMPOUND--
LOCATION UNKNOWN.

YOU KNOW... I SAVED YOU
FROM THE BRINK OF DEATH.
MENDED YOUR BROKEN
BODY. GAVE YOU THE TOOLS
TO BUILD ARMIES AND
ROBOT MASTERS...

...AND YOU USE
IT ALL TO KIDNAP
LITTLE GIRLS?!

JUST
THE
ONE.

MADAM Y
MR. X'S
SECOND IN
COMMAND

WHO YOU THEN
FOISTED ON ME. I
AM *NOT* A NANNY.

MR. X
WILY'S
BENEFACTOR

DR. WILY
MAD
SCIENTIST

OH, BUT YOU DO SUCH A GOOD
JOB LOOKING AFTER MR. X HERE!
JUST GET HER A JUICE BOX AND
TURN ON SOME CARTOONS OR
SOMETHING.

SHE'S KEY TO JUST *ONE* OF
MY *MANY* BRILLIANT SCHEMES!
YOU CAN'T CRITIQUE MY
MASTER PLAN WHEN WE'RE
BARELY PAST PHASE ONE!

⇒SIGH⇒ PLEASE
LOOK AFTER THE
GIRL FOR NOW.

BY *YOUR*
COMMAND,
SIR.

HEH-
HEH-HEH...
YOU RUN A
TIGHT SHIP
HERE.

MUCH BETTER THAN
YOU RAN THE
EMERALD SPEARS--EH,
XANDER PAYNE?

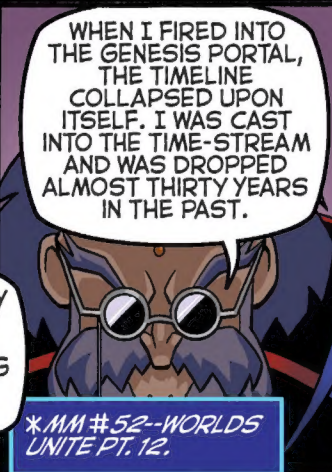


HMPH, HOW LONG HAVE YOU KNOWN?

I PUT IT TOGETHER AFTER...WELL, WHATEVER THAT SPACE-TIME ANOMALY WAS.*

MY MEMORY IS HAZY AT BEST. ALL I'M MISSING IS THE "HOW."

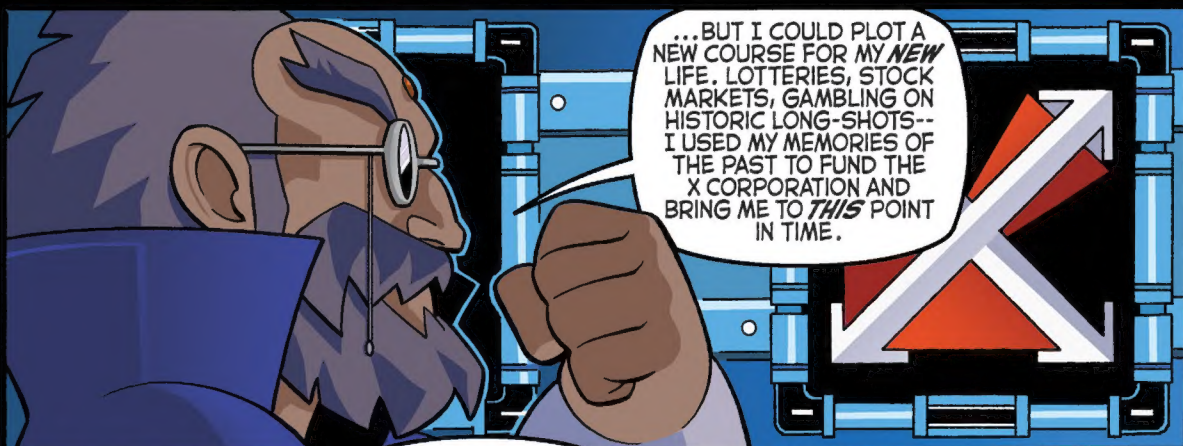
*MM #52-WORLDS UNITE PT. 12.



WHEN I FIRED INTO THE GENESIS PORTAL, THE TIMELINE COLLAPSED UPON ITSELF. I WAS CAST INTO THE TIME-STREAM AND WAS DROPPED ALMOST THIRTY YEARS IN THE PAST.



TO MY FRUSTRATION, I COULDN'T MAKE ANY CHANGES TO MY PAST...



...BUT I COULD PLOT A NEW COURSE FOR MY *NEW* LIFE. LOTTERIES, STOCK MARKETS, GAMBLING ON HISTORIC LONG-SHOTS-- I USED MY MEMORIES OF THE PAST TO FUND THE X CORPORATION AND BRING ME TO *THIS* POINT IN TIME.



"XANDER PAYNE" NO LONGER EXISTS! THERE IS ONLY "MR. X"! FREE OF MY OLD PAST, I WILL CHANGE THE COURSE OF HISTORY TO THE *LEGENDARY* FUTURE I'VE SEEN!

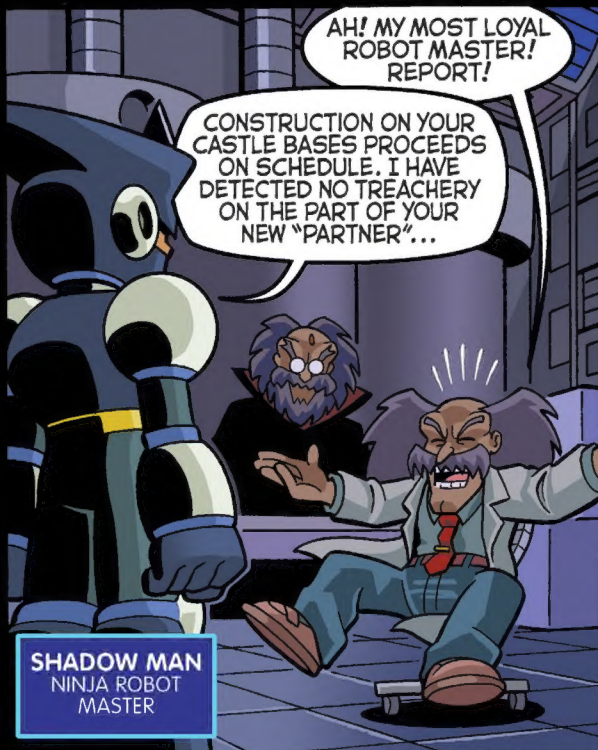
ONE WHERE MAN IS NO LONGER MENACED BY MACHINES!

BWOOW-WIP!

IMPRESSIVE!
BRILLIANT,
EVEN!

PRESUMING YOU'RE
RIGHT, YOU LUNATIC.
STILL, IT GIVES SOME
CREDENCE TO ONE OF
MY RISKIER PLANS...

MASTER
WILY.



AH! MY MOST LOYAL
ROBOT MASTER!
REPORT!

CONSTRUCTION ON YOUR
CASTLE BASES PROCEEDS
ON SCHEDULE. I HAVE
DETECTED NO TREACHERY
ON THE PART OF YOUR
NEW "PARTNER"...

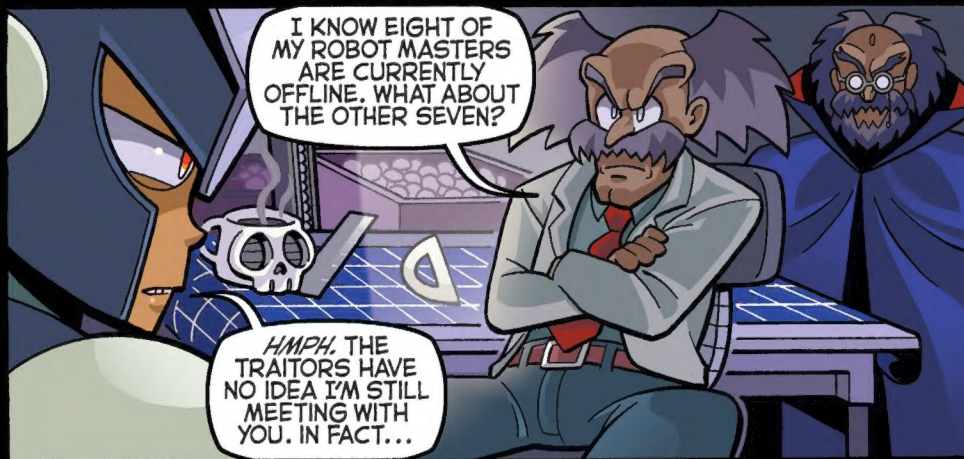
SHADOW MAN
NINJA ROBOT
MASTER

...AND THE WORLD STILL
BELIEVES YOU TO BE DEAD.
NO ONE WILL BE PREPARED
FOR YOUR RETURN.

HA HA HA!
EXCELLENT!

DON'T LEAVE
ME HANGING.
THAT'S AN
ORDER.

CLAP!



I KNOW EIGHT OF
MY ROBOT MASTERS
ARE CURRENTLY
OFFLINE. WHAT ABOUT
THE OTHER SEVEN?

HMPH. THE
TRAITORS HAVE
NO IDEA I'M STILL
MEETING WITH
YOU. IN FACT...

"...THEY'VE ALL ADJUSTED TO
THEIR NEW FUNCTIONS."

TEN MILES ABOVE
MEGA CITY...

WELL? I CAN'T CONTINUE
MY METEOROLOGICAL
STUDIES IF THE GAUGES
KEEP FREEZING UP.

HMM...LOOKS LIKE
IT'S SIMPLY CONDEN-
SATION FREEZING AT
THIS ALTITUDE.

AIR MAN
AIR-MANIPULATING
ROBOT MASTER

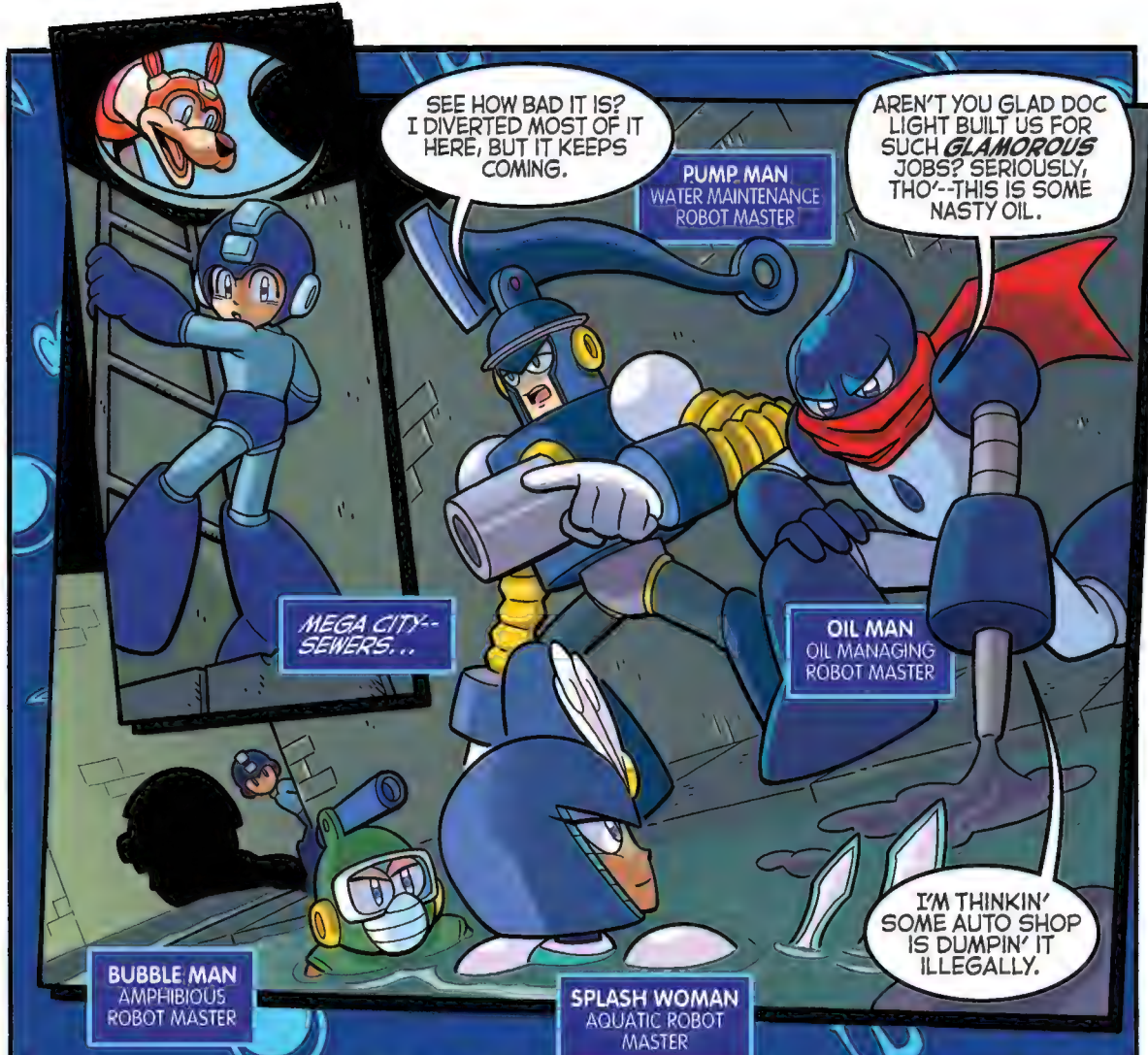
ICE MAN
ICE-MANIPULATING
ROBOT MASTER

WELL, CAN'T
YOU DE-ICE IT?
YOU'RE "ICE
MAN," FOR
LIGHT'S SAKE!

THE SAME WAY YOU
DE-AIR STUFF, *AIR MAN*?

ALL THIS MEANS IS
THERE'S AN ANTIFREEZE
LEAK SOMEWHERE. I'LL
LOOK INTO IT.





SEE HOW BAD IT IS?
I DIVERTED MOST OF IT
HERE, BUT IT KEEPS
COMING.

PUMP MAN
WATER MAINTENANCE
ROBOT MASTER

AREN'T YOU GLAD DOC
LIGHT BUILT US FOR
SUCH *GLAMOROUS*
JOBS? SERIOUSLY,
THO--THIS IS SOME
NASTY OIL.

*MEGA CITY--
SEWERS...*

OIL MAN
OIL MANAGING
ROBOT MASTER

BUBBLE MAN
AMPHIBIOUS
ROBOT MASTER

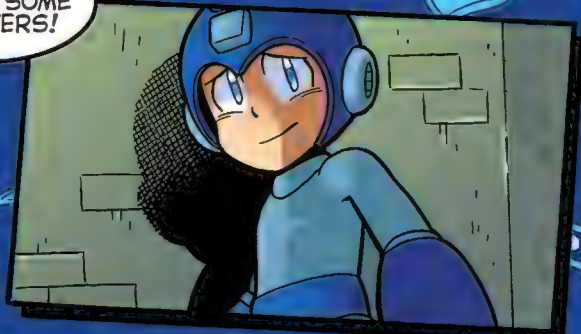
SPLASH WOMAN
AQUATIC ROBOT
MASTER

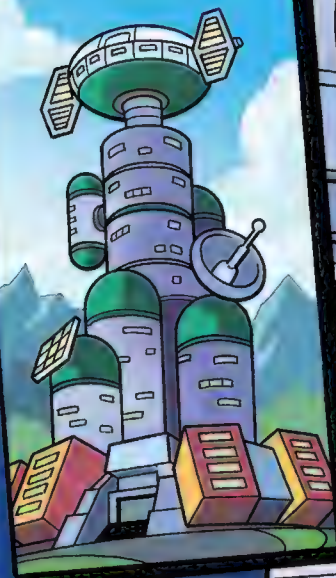
I'M THINKIN'
SOME AUTO SHOP
IS DUMPIN' IT
ILLEGALLY.



WE'LL
SEE IF
WE CAN
FIND THE
SOURCE.

YEAH! TIME
TO BUST SOME
POLLUTERS!





...MEANING WE'D HAVE TO **STOP** THE TACHYON BOMBARDMENT, NOT **SLOW** IT! I REALIZE YOU'RE AN EARLY TEST MODEL, BUT **TRY** TO KEEP UP!

WHAT YOU'RE **FAILING** TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT IS THE INVERSE EFFECT IT WILL HAVE ON GRAVITON LEVELS! OR DO YOU WANT TO IRRADIATE THE TIME SKIMMER?!



FLASH MAN
TIME-STOPPING
ROBOT
MASTER



TIME MAN
TIME-SLOWING
ROBOT
MASTER

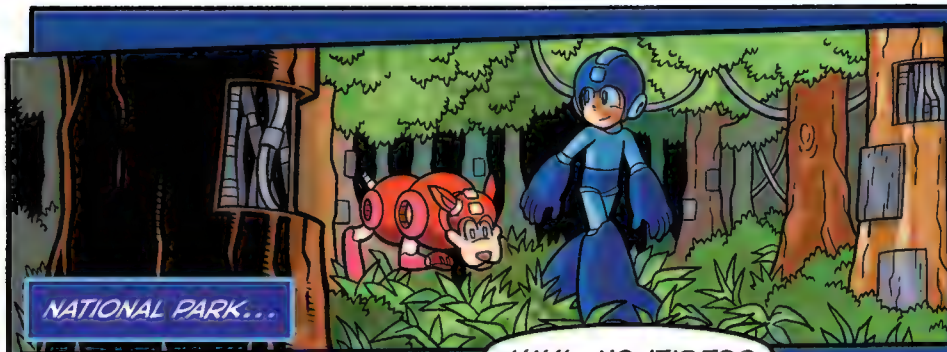
SLOWING THE TACHYONS *WOULD* KEEP THE INVERSION LOW...

STOPPING THEM IN A SOLID-STATE FIELD *AROUND* THE TIME SKIMMER WOULD DECREASE TEMPORAL DRAG...



A COMPROMISE THEN? AGREED.





NATIONAL PARK...



HMM...NO, IT'S TOO SICK. THIS ONE WILL HAVE TO BE FELLED AND REPLACED WITH A SYNTHETIC TREE.

DON'T SOUND SAD, SIR. THIS HAS BEEN HERE FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS.

CUT MAN
FORESTRY
ROBOT MASTER

IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE *TRUNK-CATING* ITS LIFE!

WOOD MAN
ARBOREAL
ROBOT MASTER



JUST WHEN I THOUGHT YOU'D RUN OUT OF TREE-RELATED PUNS...

HEY! IF A TREE FALLS IN THE WOODS, AND THERE ISN'T A ROBOT AROUND, IS THERE AN AUDIO SAMPLE TO PROCESS?

≡SIGH≡



SNICKER



MY SEARCH SNAKES
ARE REPORTING IN. THE
FIRST SECTOR IS LEVEL.
SECTOR TWO STILL
NEEDS TO BE REDUCED
BY ONE DEGREE.

IT SHOULDN'T
TAKE LONG. WE
CAN PROCEED TO
CLEARING THE
NEXT SECTOR.

MY
APOLOGIES.
I'LL GET RIGHT
ON IT.

SNAKE MAN
SURVEYING
ROBOT
MASTER

HARD MAN
GROUND-
LEVELING
ROBOT
MASTER

AWESOME.
Y'KNOW,
YOU'RE
PRETTY USE-
FUL WHEN
YOU'RE NOT
BEING CREEPY.

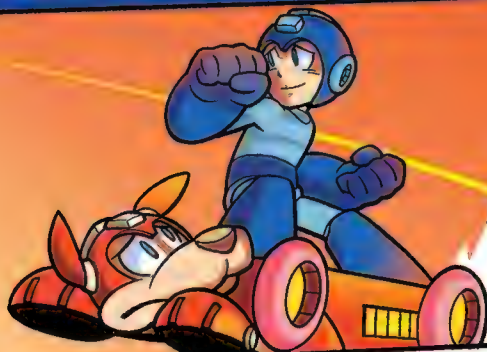
BOMB MAN
DEMOLITIONS
ROBOT
MASTER



ME?
CREEPY?
WHATEVER
DO YOU
MEAN?

I
MEAN,
WHEN
YOU--

GAH!
GET IT OFF!
GET IT
OFF!



MEGA CITY--
POWER PLANT...



ALMOST
DONE HERE.
HOW ARE YOU
HOLDING
UP?

SPARK MAN
ELECTRICITY-
CONTROLLING
ROBOT
MASTER

OH, I'M
JUST FINE!
I CAN KEEP
BOTH OF THESE
RUNNING ALL
NIGHT IF I
HAVE TO!

ELEC MAN
POWER
REGULATING
ROBOT
MASTER



THERE!
THE REPAIRS
ARE COMPLETE, AND
WITH ZERO POWER-
LOSS TO THE CITY.
NICE WORK.

HEE
HEE!
THANKS!
YOU,
TOO!



MEGA CITY--WASTE
PROCESSING CENTER...

...SO I CHECKED IN
ON ALL OF DR. LIGHT'S
ROBOT MASTERS, AND
ALL THE REFORMED
WILY BOTS, AND THEY'RE
ALL DOING GREAT.

I DIDN'T WANT
TO INTERRUPT
THEM. I JUST
WANTED TO SEE
IF THEY WERE
HAPPY.

WERE
THEY?

YEAH...

FIRE MAN
INCINERATOR
ROBOT MASTER

THEY ALL SEEM SO
CONTENT IN THEIR
FUNCTIONS. SO WHY
CAN'T I FEEL THE
SAME WAY?

I WAS ORIGINALLY BUILT
FOR PEACEFUL FUNCTIONS.
BUT I'M NOT SURE I *WANT*
TO STOP BEING MEGA MAN.
DOES THAT MEAN I CAN'T
BE HAPPY UNLESS I'M
FIGHTING?

DO I *HAVE* TO
DO WHAT I HATE
SO I CAN FEEL
FULFILLED?

LISTEN HERE,
PARDNER. IT ISN'T
THE FIGHTING THAT
SUSTAINS YOU. IT'S
HELPING PEOPLE.

I'M THINKIN' YOU'RE
AFRAID YOU WON'T BE
ABLE TO HELP EVERYONE
IF YOU'RE NOT MEGA
MAN ANYMORE.

BUT YOUR FIGHTIN'
IS OVER. YOU'VE
BROUGHT JUSTICE
TO THE WORLD.

IT'S OKAY FOR YOU
TO HANG UP THE
ARMOR NOW. YOU
CAN BRING ABOUT
A BETTER FUTURE
WITH DR. LIGHT
AS ROCK.

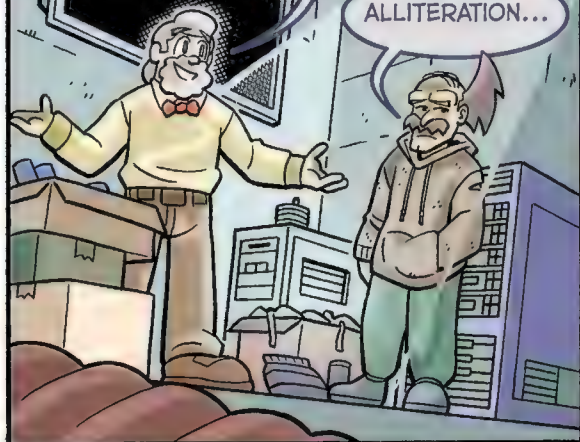
THANKS, FIRE MAN.
I REALLY OUGHT TO
HANG OUT WITH YOU
MORE OFTEN.

THAT'D BE FINE
BY ME. NOW, YOU
GET ON BACK TO
LIGHT LABS...

"...I'M SURE
DOCTOR LIGHT
NEEDS SOME
REASSURING
TOO."

AND HERE WE
ARE! THE HUMBLE
BEGINNINGS OF
LIGHT LABS!

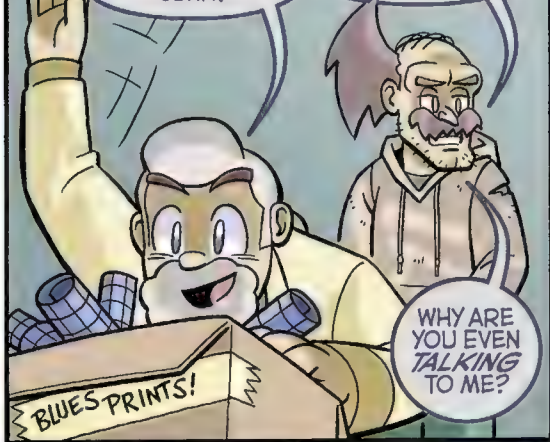
HMPH.
YOU ALWAYS
DID LIKE
ALLITERATION...



JUST WAIT UNTIL
YOU SEE SOME OF
THE SCHEMATICS
I'VE DRAWN UP!
I'LL MAKE OUR
DOCTORAL THESIS
WORK LOOK LIKE
JUNK!

ARE YOU *SURE*
ABOUT THIS, TOM?
I MEAN...YOU'RE
ALREADY SCORING
MILITARY CON-
TRACTS WHILE I'VE
HIT ROCK BOTTOM.

WHY ARE
YOU EVEN
TALKING
TO ME?



BECAUSE
THERE'S GOOD
IN EVERYONE, AL.
I KNOW YOU'RE
BRILLIANT. I KNOW,
WITH A SECOND
CHANCE, YOU CAN
CREATE GREAT
THINGS.

HEH...BRING IT
BACK TO *ZERO*,
EH? START FROM
SCRATCH?

START OVER,
BUT NOT FROM
NOTHING. I'LL
HELP YOU OUT.



IT NEVER
HURTS TO HAVE
A LITTLE FAITH
IN SOMEONE!



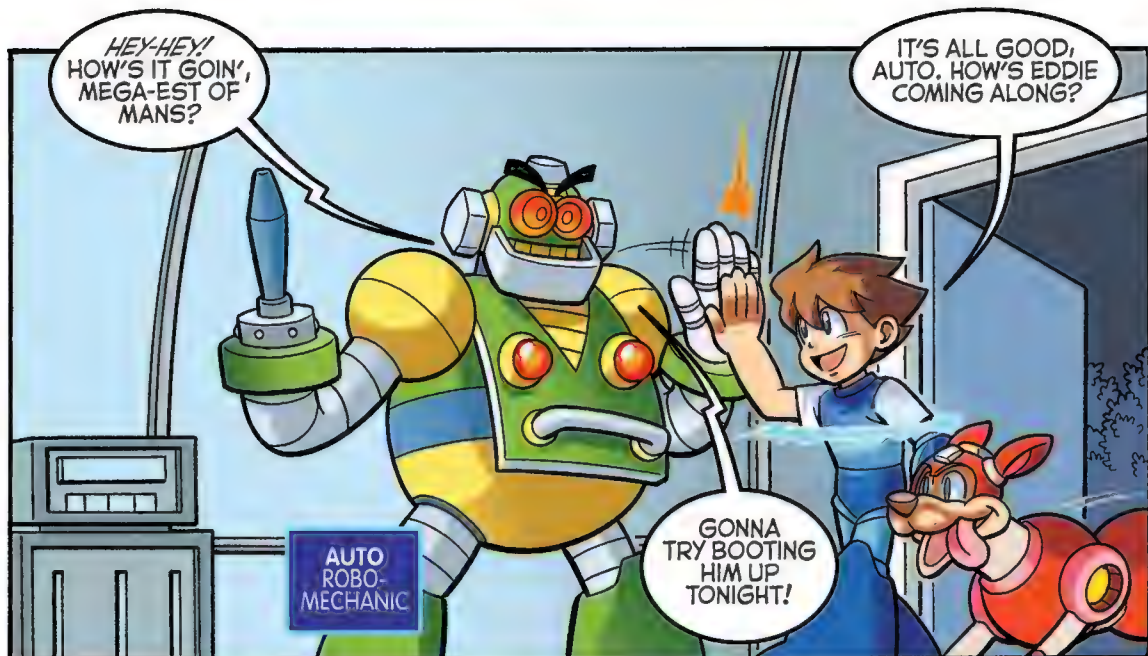
ROCK
IS HOME!
C'MON,
DOCTOR
LIGHT!

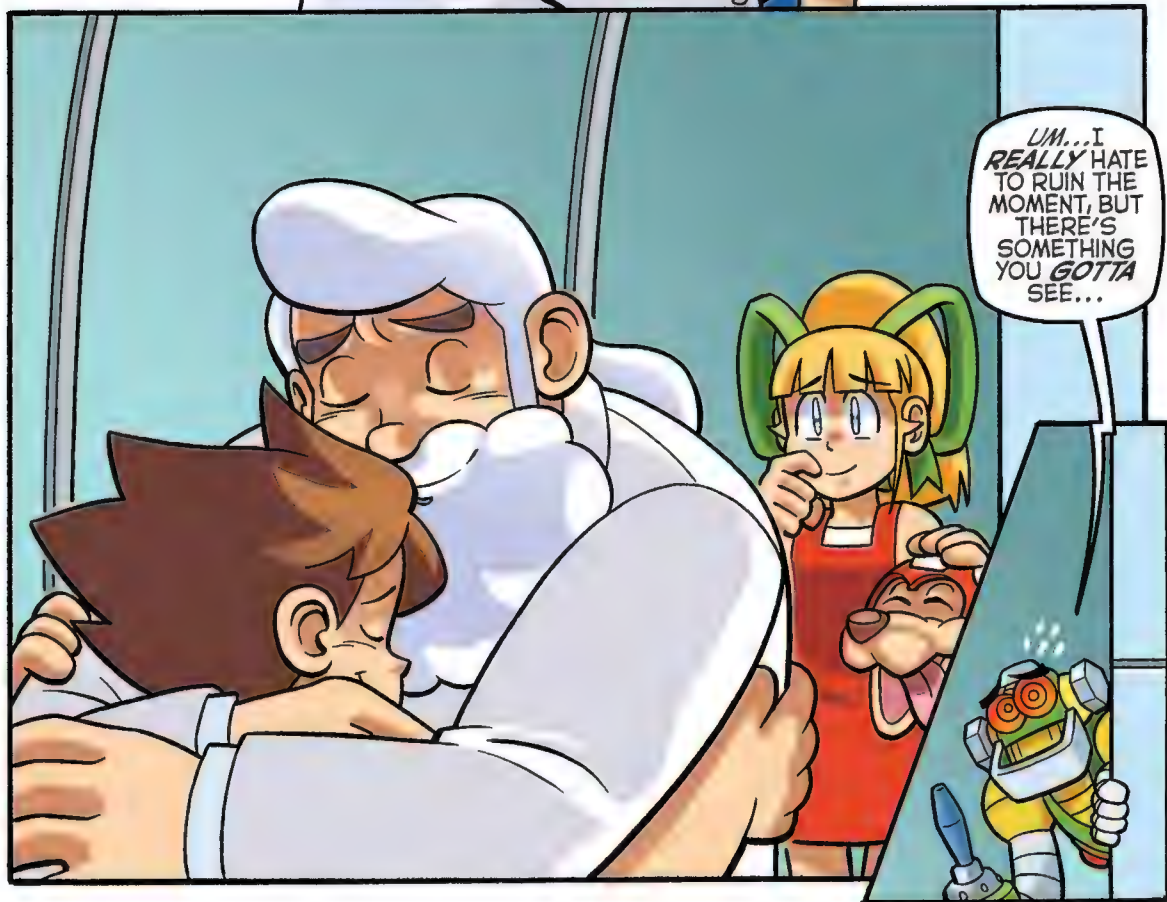
RIGHT
BEHIND
YOU,
DEAR.




DR. LIGHT
KIND-HEARTED
CREATOR

ROLL
MEGA MAN'S
SISTER





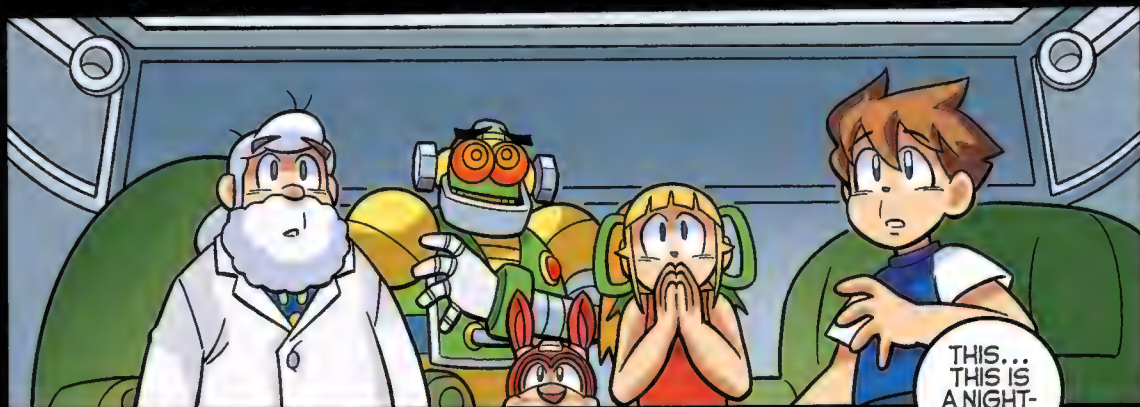


GOOD EVENING, PEOPLE OF THE WORLD. ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF. I AM **DOCTOR COSSACK**. YOU MAY NOT HAVE HEARD OF ME, BUT SOON THE WORLD WILL **KNOW MY NAME**.

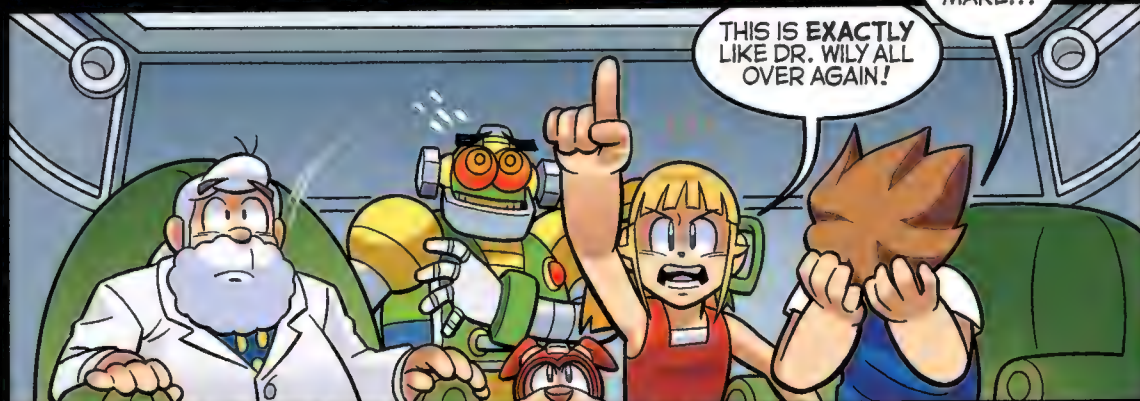
OVER THE YEARS, DR. LIGHT HAS BEEN HAILED AS THE GREATEST ROBOT DESIGNER IN THE WORLD, WHILE MY ROBOTIC CREATIONS HAVE BEEN TOTALLY IGNORED. I CANNOT ALLOW THIS TO CONTINUE. THE WORLD MUST BE MADE AWARE OF MY GENIUS!

FROM MY SIBERIAN CITADEL, I'VE SENT EIGHT OF MY MOST POWERFUL ROBOTS TO DESTROY THAT TITANIUM TROUBLEMAKER **MEGA MAN**. ONCE THEY'VE ELIMINATED HIM, I WILL PLACE HIS BROKEN BODY ON DISPLAY FOR THE ENTIRE WORLD TO SEE.

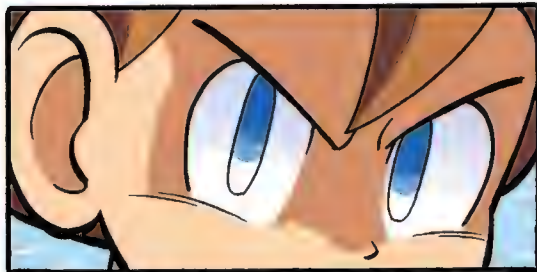
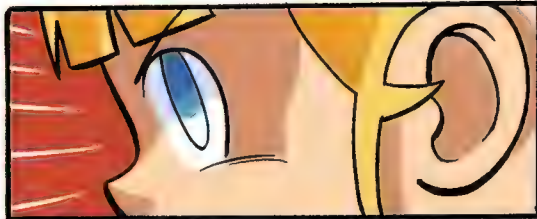
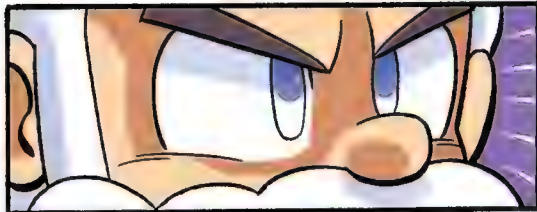
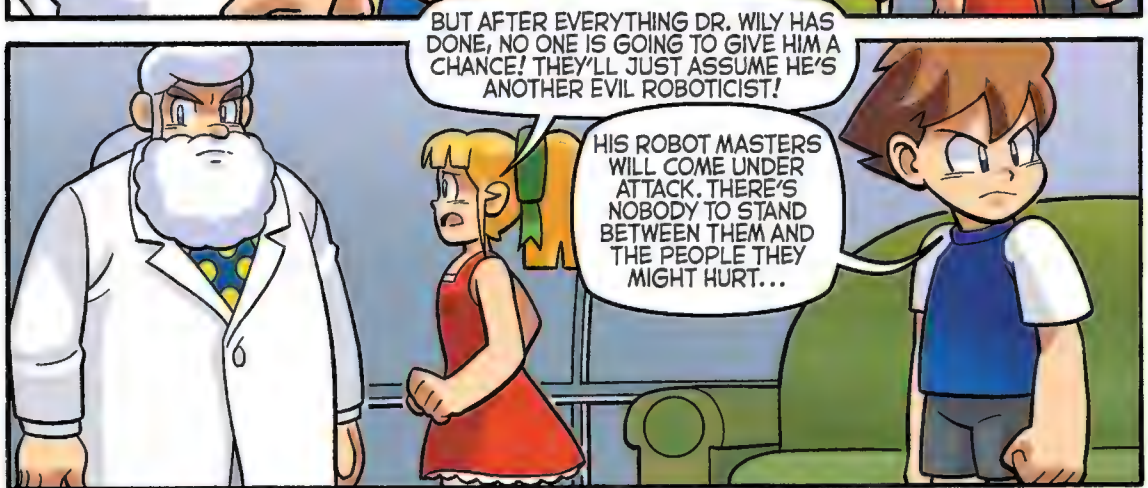
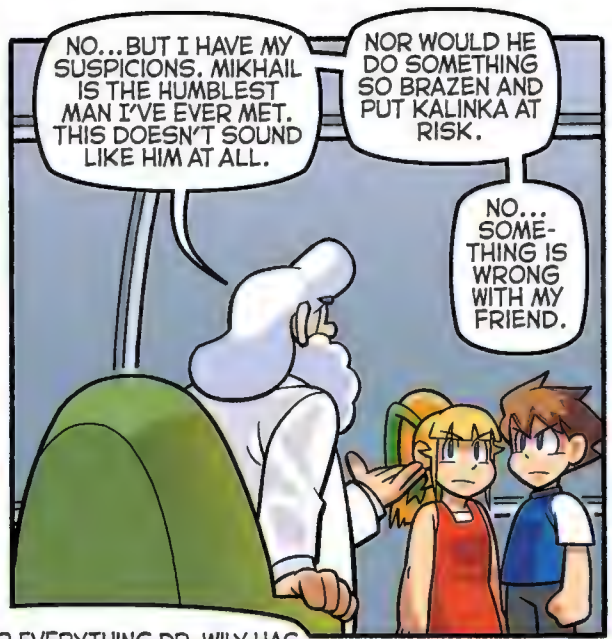
ONLY THEN WILL I BE ALLOWED TO TAKE MY PLACE AS THE GREATEST ROBOT DESIGNER OF ALL TIME!



THIS... THIS IS A NIGHTMARE...



THIS IS EXACTLY LIKE DR. WILY ALL OVER AGAIN!



A full-page illustration featuring Mega Man, Rush, Dr. Light, and a small robot. Mega Man, a blue armored hero, stands on the right in a dynamic pose. Rush, a red and orange robotic dog, is in the center with a surprised expression. Dr. Light, an elderly man with a white beard, stands on the left holding a young girl in a red dress. A small green and yellow robot is on the bottom right. The background is a futuristic circular room with a large window showing a cloudy sky.

YOU GOT
ACTIVATED AT
A CRAZY TIME,
EDDIE! WELCOME
TO THE TEAM!

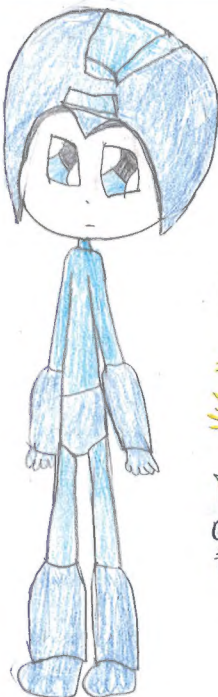
NOW,
LET'S GO
SAVE THE
WORLD
AGAIN!

MEGA MAN'S NEXT ADVENTURE AWAITS!

BREAK MAN RETURNS NEXT TIME IN **MEGA MAN # 54!**
AND DON'T FORGET TO CATCH **ALL** THE PREVIOUS
ADVENTURES WITH THE **GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!**



Serean R. sent to
MegaMan@ArchieComics.com



Karianne R. sent to
MegaMan@ArchieComics.com



Timothy S. sent to
MegaMan@ArchieComics.com



Ranindya P.P.N. sent to
MegaMan@ArchieComics.com



Michael P. sent to
MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

ART WILL NOT BE RETURNED. SPACE LIMITATIONS MAY REQUIRE SOME PRINTED ART TO BE EDITED. ALL YOUR LETTERS & FAN ART ARE APPRECIATED!

- SHORT- CIRCUITS - SIZZLING CIRCUITS! -

OR VIVA LAS MEGAS!

HEY KIDS!
IT'S TIME FOR...
LOST TALES
OF THE LATE '90s



TODAY'S EPISODE:
SON OF THE RETURN
OF THE CURSE OF
THE LION MEN!

TAR, LEADER OF THE
LION MEN HAS RETURNED
TO SHOW MEGA MAN HIS
VAST JUNGLE KINGDOM!



I'M
ANIME-
RIFIC!



BOW-CHIKKA
MEOW-MEOW!

LOOK, LATE
'90s CARTOON
MEGA MAN!
ALL THAT THE
SKY TOUCHES
IS MY KINGDOM!

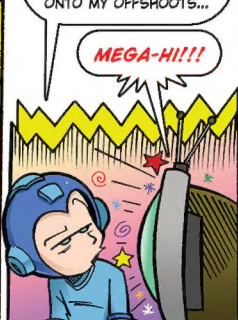


WHAT ABOUT THAT SILLY
LOOKIN' PLACE OVER THERE?

THAT IS MEGALAND,
HOME OF EARLY '90s
CAPTAIN-N MEGA MAN!
YOU MUST NEVER GO
THERE!



I HAVE GOT TO FIND
SOME WAY OF
ENACTING QUALITY
CONTROL STANDARDS
ONTO MY OFFSHOOTS...



MEGA-HI!!!

SCRIPT & PENCILS: JONATHAN H. GRAY INKS: RICK BRYANT COLORS: ALEAH BAKER



MEGA MAIL

WRITE TO US @: MEGA-MAIL C/O
 ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
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 MEGAMAN@ARCHIECOMICS.COM
 OR TWEET AT US USING #MEGAMAIL!

...Aaand we're back! Didja miss us? We missed you, dearest readers! In fact, we missed you so much that we're dedicating this and EVERY letter column to YOU! Ain't that nice? Ain't that spiffy? Doesn't that make you wanna grin from ear to ear? Here's to you, our SUPER AMAZING and SUPER AWESOME fans of Mega Man! Y'all are the best!

Today we're going to change gears and focus on one very important letter from a mom whose kids also read Mega Man, just like you! Let's begin...

Dear 'Mega Mail,'
 My son adores Mega Man and Sonic. He reads them for hours on end. So I have a very personal reason for writing this request: *can Roll please ditch the broom and dustpan?!?!?* I love how the Sonic comics contain characters of different kinds of ability and plenty of strong female characters, most of whom are not connected romantically to anyone. Thank you for that. My son can play Sonic with girls and they get to be powerful, too! So I'm even more confused how it is that after 50 issues and as many plot lines

past and future, the only female character in the Mega Man series is still mopping up around the house. How hard would it be to issue her a red costume and a (different but cool) blaster? Please???? Thanks for reading.

A concerned mother,
Dana S. sent to
MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

It's not often we get a parent that writes to us, so thank you for that, Dana! Your comments did not fall on deaf ears and are greatly appreciated! Let's see if we can help ease some of your worries!

We have taken great strides to make sure that Roll is more than just a girl with a mop and is, instead, someone all readers can relate to as a person. She's Rock's support and confidante in times of need. She keeps her father, Dr. Light, from falling apart at the seams. And, as shown in Worlds Collide, she's the only one Proto Man will let fix his circuitry. Roll is the glue that holds her family together!

In fact, we have an entire issue

showcasing Roll's strengths in the Mega Man vol. 5 graphic novel, "Rock of Ages"! Be sure to check it out!

Beyond Roll, there are a few more female characters of note, like Dr. Noelle Lalinde, a genius in robotics on par with Dr. Light and Dr. Wily. She is also the creator of Quake Woman—also a hero just like Mega Man! There's also Rosalyn Krantz, the analytical policewoman partner of Gil Stern. Splash Woman keeps watch over the oceans and there's even the diabolical Madam Y, the no-nonsense, evil assistant to Mr. X! These ladies are strong individuals who are not tied to another character or defined by other characters. They are their own persons. We hope the ladies that we have in our book showcase a diverse range of people and personalities! We're always looking to incorporate great characters like them!

As usual, we appreciate everyone's feedback!

And that's that! We'll see y'all next issue! Until then, take care, gang!

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